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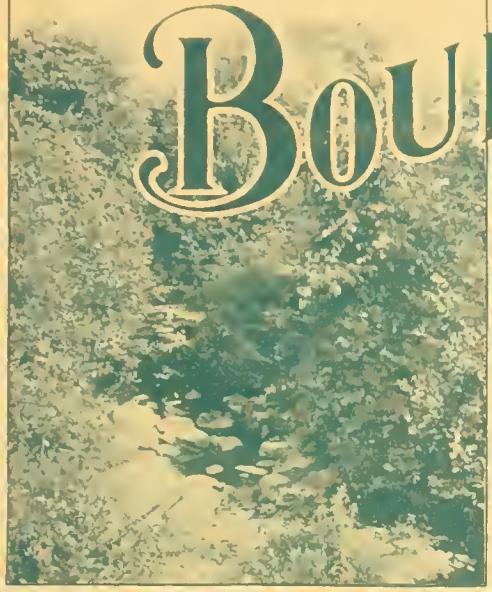
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BOUND,  
BROOK  
The PLACE  
To DWELL

PUBLISHED UNDER AUSPICES  
of  
THE BOARD of TRADE  
BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY.



# BOUND BROOK



THE PLACE TO  
DWELL

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20 VESEY STREET, NEW YORK

PUBLISHED BY BOARD OF TRADE  
BOUND BROOK, N. J.



Photo by E. G. Sutton, Bound Brook

*Residence of E. D. La Tourette, South Bound Brook*

In this transcript may be seen a picture taken from a photograph of the building as it now stands. The central part of this house is the original. The old-fashioned double doors with the bulb-eye glasses; the window sashes and panes; the roof, the broad stonewall; the wide heavy beams; the wide thick places; all show us that this is an ancient building. It is the only house in this vicinity where you can really feel amid its architecture and interior ornaments that you are back in the early days of the nation. In this house, you may feast your eyes on its wealth of revolutionary relics. Here you can look upon oil paintings of those true American patriots, Abraham Staats and his wife, in their quaint, Dutch dress. You may feel he honored eyes on the distinguished leaders of the Revolution. You may walk upon the same rug they walked upon, look by sitting in the very chairs that once held Washington and his amiable wife, and many of the distinguished men of the Revolution. The old Staats house is indeed an ancient relic worthy to be upon the same ornaments and pictures, and even quaff the elixir of life from vessels that were old when Washington was young. The old Staats house is indeed an ancient relic worthy to be highly praised. It was here that Baron Steuben, Mad-Gen. of the American forces, had his headquarters while the army lay in camp on the mountain side. Abraham Staats, who resided here during the Revolution, was always true to the cause of liberty.

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## BOUND BROOK THE PLACE TO DWELL

IN these days when new parks and manors and real estate schemes of various kinds are being started with astonishing rapidity it is positively refreshing to come upon a place that has been upon the map long enough to have a history and a character of its own—a place of traditions and individuality. Residence in a new place means being a pioneer with all the discomforts that that word suggests. The wise man who wants to live in peace and comfort lets the other fellow do the pioneering and selects as the place for his home the town which is already settled, not a town which is going to be, but one which is, one which has been tried and found worthy. If he is a New York, or a Newark or a Philadelphia man, his home must be within easy reach of the city in which he does his business or carries on his profession. By *easy* he means within a reasonable distance and with a comfortable means of transportation. He wants to live in a place that is well equipped with those facilities which make living easy. He wants good streets and sidewalks. He must have good lights and a good sanitary system. He wants shade trees and he wants an abundant water supply. Good schools, libraries and churches are a necessity. The wise man says, "My home must be where these things are established—I am willing to maintain, to extend and to improve them, but life is too short for me to go to a new or raw place and establish them." A place that has these things established has shown that it has a reason to exist and is worth investigating and is worth living in. In addition to these things the wise man further requires that his home should be in a healthy neighborhood, that the landscape should be not only beautiful but varied and that the surrounding country be also attractive and suitable for the expansion of the town which he is selecting for his home. He wants to live in a place that not only was alive a hundred years ago but that is alive and growing to-day. One might well say that the wise man's quest

was a vain one if he expected to find all of these requirements combined in one community. Admit this but one must also admit that if such places exist they are worth looking for and if found they are worthy of the search.

This book is published to help the searchers and to be a guide to the wise. It cannot point out the way to all of the delectable places for fortunately there are many happy communities where men dwell together in comfort and happiness which meet some of the requirements set forth but the publishers know of none more worthy of the search or which unites so many of the advantages as the place whose name appears upon the title page "*Bound Brook—the Place to Dwell.*"

In the first place Bound Brook is an old town. It was settled in 1683. More than two hundred years ago the Sheriff of New York City had his farm on the Raritan River and his country house stood upon the site now occupied by Mr. George La Monte whose beautiful home with its spacious lawns and garden is one of the most attractive places in the State. It presents more the air of a Virginia estate than of a suburban home, yet it is so near to New York that for more than two centuries it has given rest and comfort to its various owners whose business lives have been spent in the metropolis. The La Tourette House, a view of which adorns this book as the frontispiece, is another of the old Bound Brook houses. This house was the headquarters of Baron Steuben during the Revolutionary War and is one of the most interesting and best preserved of the Colonial houses still in existence. The old Boise house on the Raritan River is a quaint specimen of Dutch architecture. The family bought the land from the Indians and has continued in uninterrupted possession ever since. The old Fisher Tavern in the western end of the town is another one of the Revolutionary buildings and has been visited by many antiquarians from all over the country. These places are only mentioned to show the unusual historic interest which attaches itself to Bound Brook.

This is not the time to recall the Revolutionary history of this region but every inch is historic ground. Washington twice

encamped with his army on the hillside just north of the town and the Revolutionary records contain many important letters written by him while here. The site occupied by the Revolutionary Army was purchased a few years ago by one of Bound Brook's patriotic citizens and deeded by him to the Washington Camp Ground Association, and here on each Fourth of July patriotic exercises are held which are largely attended by people from all the surrounding country. Time and space will not permit further reference to the past, especially as this article is prepared for the present and for the future.

Judged by the requirements of the wise man, how does Bound Brook appeal to him? It is an established community: it has a history and traditions of its own: it is not like a thousand other places, but it possesses peculiar interest on account of its own past. It is accessible. The Central Railroad of New Jersey is known as the commuter's favorite road. The equipment of its trains is unsurpassed and they arrive and depart on time. Bound Brook is situated at the junction of the Philadelphia & Reading Railway with the New Jersey Central and has the full advantage of the express service by which New York City is reached in fifty minutes and Philadelphia in an hour and a quarter. Newark can not only be reached by the Central Railroad but also by the Lehigh Valley, and in this way Bound Brook to-day has the use of the McAdoo tunnels and "three minutes from Jersey City to Broadway" is a fact and not a dream. Eighty passenger trains a day means a practically unlimited service. The writer of this article recently made a study of the time tables of other railroads and they will convince the wise man that Bound Brook is more advantageously situated as far as train service is concerned than any other town within commuting distance of either New York or Philadelphia. The resident of Bound Brook can go and come when he chooses.

How about those public utilities which make living easy, comfortable and healthy? A town two hundred years old must perforce have beautiful shade trees. The streets are established and by easy grades lead up from the depot to the hills and plateaus

upon which the comfortable homes of the residents are built. The natural formation of the ground made it possible a number of years ago to establish a perfect sewer system and the Bound Brook Water Company supplies an abundance of water from mountain springs supplemented by artesian wells. The Public Service Corporation provides gas and electricity and also trolley connections with all of the adjacent towns.

More than one hundred years ago Michael Field left a sum of money for the free school system which is to-day one of Bound Brook's chief attractions. Four splendid school buildings including the magnificent new Washington High School on Union Avenue indicate Bound Brook's interest in education.

Enough has been said to show that the Bound Brook of to-day is wide awake and fully alive to its present opportunities and the wise man can here find others of like mind ready to co-operate for the further development of its already existing institutions.

Nature has done much for Bound Brook situated as it is on the great bend of the Raritan River at the base of the Watchung Mountain. The Green Brook (or the Boundary Brook) on the east, the picturesque Chimney Rock Brook on the west make a beautiful setting. The drives in the immediate neighborhood through mountain gorges or along the river banks are of rare beauty and are continually luring the wise to establish their country homes outside of the town limits.

Where there are so many beautiful homes it would be invidious to make comparisons but the illustrations in this book will give a partial idea of what exists here.

Bound Brook has only one invitation to the wise man, "Come and see"—and is willing to abide by his verdict.



## THE IDEAL TOWN

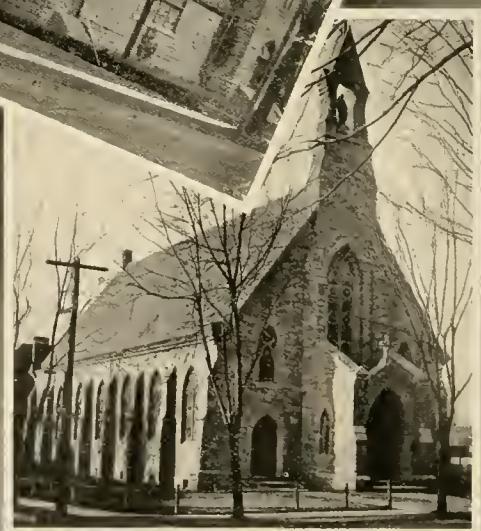
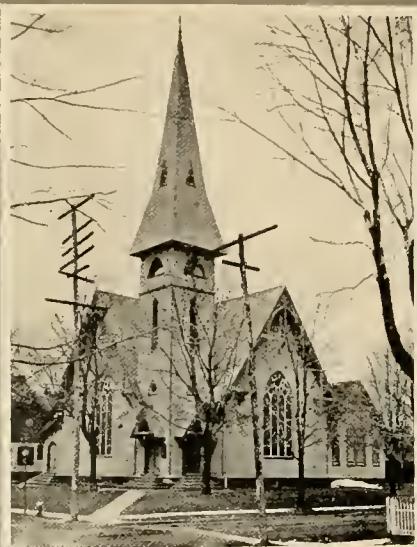
By Ex-Mayor RICHARD H. BROKAW

**B**OUND BROOK is in the full enjoyment of all the necessary conveniences at a minimum cost of taxation, the rate this year being only \$1.70 on the \$100, while our neighboring municipalities are being charged from 25 to 50 per cent. more.

I most earnestly and conscientiously say to the home-seeker who can appreciate the pure air of Heaven, the pure water of the earth, and every facility for rapid transportation to stop and consider the question seriously, why not locate in Bound Brook? Give our local advantages for a moment the same thought you would your business affairs and consider thoughtfully what we are prepared to offer: the purest water, best gas, electric light, sewer system, sanitary conditions, carefully supervised by a most intelligent local board of health, which explains our healthful condition. Churches of all denominations with clergymen who are gentlemen of culture both socially and mentally. Public schools equal to any in the country. Parochial school equally as commendable. A country club owning its pretty club house, golf links, tennis courts, where these outdoor exercises may be indulged, as well as indoor functions enjoyed.

Right here I feel proud in asserting that those who come here, remain, and those who find it necessary to go away are glad to return. Nearly every day I have it repeated to me by some one I happen to meet, "Well! I am glad to get back to Bound Brook," or "I made a mistake in moving away from Bound Brook." The facts are when you pay \$1.70 taxes on \$100 assessed valuation of property in Bound Brook, you get \$1.70 worth of actual results.

Possessing, as we do, all the essentials of a thoroughly equipped borough, we invite the seeker of health, comfort and convenience to consider very intelligently what Bound Brook possesses before deciding upon a location, either residential or for manufacturing.



*Beginning at top: (1) Congregational (2) Presbyterian. (3) St. Joseph's R. C.*



Beginning at top: (1) St. Paul's P. E. (2) Dutch Reformed. (3) Methodist Episcopal.

## BOUND BROOK AND THE YOUNG HOUSEHOLDER

THE young married couple is proverbially supposed to find contentment with love in a cottage on a diet of bread and cheese and kisses—a euphemism for small income and large hopes. Real estate promoters the country over are wont to prey upon these young couples who in their eagerness to settle down buy houses that were merely made to sell.

“Seven rooms and bath, electric lights, beamed ceiling and wainscoted dining-room, pergola-porch,” etc., etc.—how familiar it all sounds to those who have hunted through the advertising pages of the Sunday papers; glittering bait, forsooth, to tempt the young housekeepers. A pergola-porch if cleverly designed and rightly placed is a joy; but it is not as essential as properly planned bedrooms, for example. But little cares the conscienceless builder whether there is space enough in which to put a bed without projecting over a window opening. What cares he if the rattling windows leak in cold air faster than the inadequate furnace supplies warmth! He will put red burlap on the hall and showy chandeliers, and leaded glass in the front door—all of which costs less than careful building, and it *shows*!

Buying a ready-to-live-in house on the installment plan in a popular suburb is usually an expensive, often a ruinous, investment.

*Building your own home* through the local building loan association is, in nine cases out of ten, the better way.

The wise young couple do not build or buy until they have lived in a town at least a season. It is better to lease for a year a not altogether adequate house by way of *trying* the place and during that year learn by actual experience the number and arrangement of rooms required and the general character of architecture that most appeals.

Six months to test the town; six months to build your home. isn't a bad plan to follow.

In choosing a place of residence the first essentials to consider are: Distance from the husband's place of business, healthfulness, the social aspect of the town, price of property, cost of building, and convenience in marketing.

It is a large statement to make, yet easily demonstrated, that Bound Brook has more to offer young housekeepers than any other town within commuting distance of New York.

Bound Brook is a "slow" town in the better sense of the word. It has been slow and healthful in its growth; and its growth has been in the right direction.

The superb train service—the best that taps New York, carries the Bound Brookers to and from the city in fifty-five minutes; the way trains take fifteen minutes longer. In these fifty-five minutes the New York business man is carried far to the southwest so that he gets an absolute change of air each night—fine dry air that has made this part of Jersey a Mecca for New York and Brooklyn people suffering with throat trouble. Bound Brook is just ten minutes ride beyond Plainfield and in that extra ten minutes the commuter is carried beyond the mosquito zone.

Immunity from the mosquito plague is not the least of Bound Brook's attractions. In that ten minutes ride, also, you are carried from a thickly settled suburban district into real country.

Revolutionary Bound Brook, with its tree-arched streets, with Watchung Mountain on the north and the Raritan River and Canal on the south and the four brooks that give it name, is as attractive as an old New England town.

Like many another of the older towns, Bound Brook puts its worst foot foremost; the shops center around the depot—an antique structure which the Central Railroad of New Jersey has promised to replace in the near future with something more befitting the attractiveness and importance of the town.

There is nothing "swagger" about Bound Brook society, but the householders, very largely made up of young married people, are for the most part unusually desirable neighbors. Bound Brook is not a town to attract flashy people. It is popular, how-

**GANO & BYER**  
***The Central Grocers***

Chase & Sanborn Teas and  
Coffees a Specialty

**Cor. Main St. and Maiden Lane**  
Voorhees Bldg. **Bound Brook, N. J.**

*Telephone 6-1.*

ever, with those who are engaged in the serious business of raising a family. Rents are unusually low in Bound Brook and desirable building lots are undoubtedly cheaper at this time than they ever will be again now that the influx to Jersey from New York has begun in earnest. Young

housekeepers will find many little luxuries cheaper here than in most places; for example, hack service to any point in the borough is only fifteen cents a person. The markets are no cheaper than elsewhere, but as they are largely supplied by the farmers of the neighborhood, one gets native-grown fruits and vegetables that are fresher and usually better than in the city.

So far building in Bound Brook has proved to be less expensive than most places in the East, the town not yet having become unionized to the extent of bigger places, like Plainfield, for example. As a rule, general living expenses, as well as the prevailing rate of wages, are determined by the average income of the inhabitants. As Bound Brook is largely populated by people of merely moderate incomes the cost of living to-day is distinctly less than most towns of its size and importance. This advantage to present homeseekers cannot last much longer at the present rate of growth. Yet for those who settle and build in Bound Brook now will come substantial reward in the near future.

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**A. S. DURLING**

**CONTRACTOR FOR ARTESIAN WELLS AND  
WATER SUPPLY**

**BOUND BROOK, N. J.**

**THE DRILLED WELL IS THE ONLY SAFE AND SANITARY  
MEANS OF SECURING A NEVER FAILING SUPPLY OF WATER**

A superb high school, just opened, has given ample school accommodations. In addition there are several fine private schools in Plainfield that may be quickly reached by team or trolley.

As to table supplies, there is a model dairy farm on the edge of the town, a large chicken farm, and one farm close by is noted for its superb strawberries, not to mention the up-to-date village shops.

Outdoor diversions include boating on the Raritan River and up and down the canal, with its quaint old locks. Every fisherman has heard of Raritan River shad! There are no more beautiful drives near New York than one may find within ten miles of Bound Brook. The Middlebrook Country Club offers both golf and tennis. An addition to the club building now under way will include bowling alleys and a large auditorium for big dances, amateur theatricals, etc. Every season the club gives a series of dances and a series of monthly entertainments, including lectures by men and women of note. In addition there are the Saturday afternoon teas.

## POSTAL FACILITIES

**B**OUND BROOK's Post Office is one of the institutions of which the townspeople are justly proud, it being centrally located in a new building erected especially for the purpose and newly equipped with every modern facility for the prompt handling of mail.

Seven mails are received daily from New York and nine are despatched to the same city, with frequent mails also between points south and west.

City carriers make three collections and two deliveries daily throughout the town, with a fourth collection and third delivery in the so-called business section.

Two rural routes extend for miles out into the country, so that whether you live in town or on a farm you have in Bound Brook and its vicinity the best that Uncle Sam gives to any community.



*Photos by F. G. Sutton, Bound Brook.*

(1) *Runyon Field.* (2) *Est. W. B. Robeson.* (3) *A. S. Hearn.* (4) *Dr. J. T. Robinson.*



Photos by F. G. Sutton, Bound Brook.

(1) L. S. Bache. (2) G. M. La Monte. (3) Wenonah Drive. (4) G. W. Sweeny.

# WHAT WOMEN HAVE DONE FOR BOUND BROOK

By MRS. GERTRUDE L. PHELPS

THE advantages of Bound Brook as a place of residence can not be equalled by any town on the New Jersey Central R. R. It is an ideal place for families, as the public schools are good and are improving every year. A fine new high school costing over \$60,000 has just been completed and there will now be nothing to hinder the carrying out of the progressive plans of work in the minds of the principal and teachers. The new building has all the most approved appliances in ventilation, heating and plumbing, and the children who will use it are to be congratulated.

Another educational feature of the town is the Free Library, owned and managed by the Woman's Literary Club and Free Library Association. The comfortable home of the library, presented to the club and kept in repair by a generous and public spirited citizen, is situated near the centre of the town and contains pleasant, airy rooms in which an ever-increasing supply of books is to be found. The reading room is furnished with a good selection of periodicals, and is largely patronized, while the adjoining children's room, charmingly fitted up, and filled with books and pictures, the joy of many young people and little ones—is in constant use.

Though the library is the greatest responsibility which the members of the W. L. C. have to carry, they have various other interests of a literary and educational nature. Weekly meetings from November to May are well attended. At these meetings a

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**A Bound Brook Farm For Sale.** **Bound Brook, N. J., 199 88 acres \$6000 Ready for Occupancy, Easy Terms.** Two horses, 4 good cows; 65 chickens, geese, 4 pigs, new machinery, tools, wagons, and a lot of hay, corn, oats, potatoes, etc., will be thrown in free with this rich, well located farm; near neighbors, schools, churches, stores, easy drive to village and only 'our miles to railroad station; cuts 30 tons hay; big general farm crops; lots of wood and timber, including large number red cedar posts; apples, pears, cherries, currants, blackberries, raspberries; 9-room house, piazza, painted; water in house; big new barn, several outbuildings, all in excellent condition; fine shade, delightful view Watching Valley; aged owner must sell and will include everything for only \$6000; half cash; easy terms. See Strout's Farm Buyers' Guide, No. 27, page 115, copy free. **E. A. STROUT CO., 47 W. 34th St., New York.** **J. J. MAIER, Agent, Bound Brook, N. J.**

programme of literary or historical interest is carried out, and excellent papers are read by the members.

There is also a Town Improvement Committee which tries to further plans for the betterment of the municipality in various ways.

The natural advantages of Bound Brook have lately been supplemented by the best things civilization can devise. The pleasant situation of the town on the banks of the Raritan, with the Watchung Mountains in the background, the wide, shaded streets lined with good homes, the good service of water and light, the macadamized streets, the absence of mosquitoes, the trolleys connecting with New Brunswick, Somerville and the main line to New York, the excellent train service of the New Jersey Central—all give everything desirable for a residence town.

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## THIS BOOK: ITS PURPOSE

**B**OUND BROOK, THE PLACE TO DWELL," is published by citizens of Bound Brook for the purpose of advertising legitimately and truthfully their community life. The Board of Trade is the patron of the project, but the financial possibility was brought about through the enterprise and public spirit of local merchants and those industries actually operating in Bound Brook. No better conception of the abiding faith and pride in this special locality can be derived than from a critical study of the advertising pages in this book. Bound Brook owes a debt of gratitude to these men and one which doubtless will eventually be repaid. The articles are from the pens of permanent residents—not real estate boomers, but citizens who reside here because they find hereabout an environment in keeping with their home ideals. The illustrations are true in every detail—photographic reproductions of Bound Brook as it really is. In the compilation of this little volume there has never been an intention of exaggeration—a visit to Bound Brook will bear witness to this assertion. Bound Brook is a good place to dwell in; those residing there appreciate this and take this method of convincing others of their unflagging devotion.



*Photos by F. G. Sutton, Bound Brook.*

(1) *W. H. Dunham.* (2) *S. R. Kelso.* (3) *H. F. Gillespie.* (4) *E. H. Casterlin.*



*Photos by F. G. Sutton, Bound Brook.*

(1) David Hastings. (2) W. H. Whiting. (3) Edward Clark. (4) E. H. Radel.

The  
**Bound Brook National Bank**  
ON MAIN STREET  
Invites Your Banking Patronage

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3½  
per cent.  
Compound  
Interest  
in  
Savings  
Department

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Open  
Monday Nights  
7 to 8  
O'clock

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The most liberal  
consideration  
given to all classes  
of depositors.  
Safe Deposit  
Boxes rented  
from *one dollar* a  
year up. A call  
will be appreciated.

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W. H. BACHE, *Pres.* E. H. RADEL Vice-Pres. R. H. BROKAW, *Cashier*  
M. F. WIRTZ

# THEY COME, THEY SEE, THEY STAY

By GEORGE M. LA MONTE, Esq.

I HAVE lived in Bound Brook so long that I thought I was prejudiced in its favor, but the experiences which I have had lately have shown me that my fear of being too enthusiastic may have led me to be too conservative in expressing its advantages as a place in which to live.

Last spring a friend of mine (a confirmed urbanite) came to me and said he was thinking of becoming a suburbanite if he could only find a place that suited his peculiar requirements. He had been up to Connecticut, and had visited various places in New Jersey (it would not be fair to say upon what railways) but he had not yet found the ideal place. I said, "Come with me to Bound Brook." So one day we walked to the foot of Liberty Street, crossed the river on the ferryboat "Bound Brook" (and I did not miss the opportunity of calling his attention to the name), boarded one of the many express trains of the Central Railroad of New Jersey, and in fifty-three minutes from the time we left the New York side were at the station in Bound Brook. We then took a little tour around Bound Brook in an automobile, and my friend was filled with enthusiasm with everything that he saw. His wife, who was with us, shared this enthusiasm, and in less than an hour after reaching Bound Brook they had made up their minds that this was the place, of all others they had seen, in which they wished to live.

The next question was to find a house, and here was the difficulty. The demand for houses in Bound Brook for years has exceeded the supply. Just as fast as houses are built they are immediately occupied, either by commuters, who want to try the country for a while, or by those who are willing to purchase immediately. We called on every real estate agent in the place, and at the moment there was not a vacant house, but this did not

ESTABLISHED 1888

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THE  
**FIRST NATIONAL BANK**  
OF BOUND BROOK

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Capital, . . . . . \$50,000.00  
Surplus and Undivided Profits (Earned), \$65,000.00

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Savings Department pays  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. interest  
Safe Deposit Boxes for rent, \$1.00 per year  
Open Tuesday evenings from 7 to 8 o'clock

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George La Monte, President      P. J. Staats      W. W. Smalley } Vice Pres.

H. G. Herbert, Cashier

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DIRECTORS

George La Monte      A. S. Coriell      Gaius Hoffman      W. W. Smalley  
Peter J. Staats      H. G. Herbert      Geo. M. La Monte  
David Hastings      Samuel H. Miller

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Total Resources Feb. 6, 1905, \$344,000.00

Total Resources Feb. 5, 1906, \$422,000.00

Total Resources Feb. 5, 1907, \$503,000.00

Total Resources Feb. 11, 1908, \$575,000.00

**Total Resources July 13, 1909, \$700,000.00**

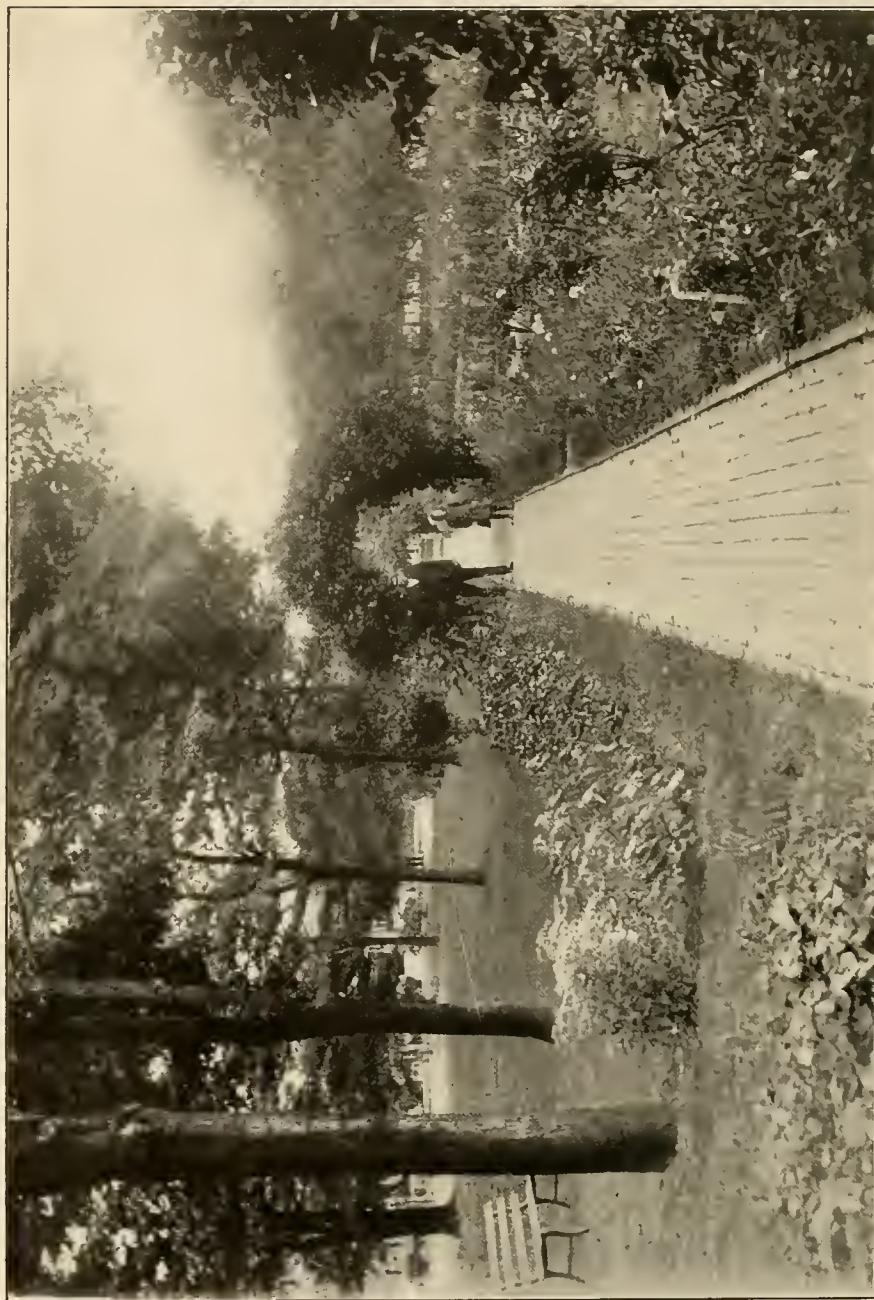
dampen the enthusiasm of my friends, and when they left me that day the parting injunction was, "Get any house you can for us and we will be satisfied, for we are going to live in Bound Brook and nowhere else."

I finally did get a house for them and they moved out, thinking that they would be willing to try it until the fall of the year, and then they would have to go back to New York for the winter. Well, they went back to New York for the winter, and I ran across them every once in a while, and the burden of their song was, "How soon can we get back to Bound Brook? We did not think we would want to go back there until the middle of April, and we have rented our house for the winter and if we could only get possession of it we would go there at once." This is one case.

Another case is of a young man who visited Bound Brook for the first time with me recently. This young man has the Long Island habit. In the summer time it takes him from an hour and three-quarters to two hours to reach his summer home. We arrived at Bound Brook, as usual, in less than an hour from New York. A short drive of one mile from the station brought us to the foot of the Watchung Mountain, and we spent the day tramping over that beautiful hill. I did not have to supply him with any enthusiasm; he gave it to me. It was a revelation to him that within such a short distance of New York City you could be carried into so beautiful a country, that you could really get into the mountains and enjoy genuine mountain scenery with the ease and luxury with which Bound Brook could be reached.

In other words, my friends have just found out for me that when I live in Bound Brook I am living in Paradise and that I travel on the cleanest and quickest road that leaves New York.

When I get to the end of my journey I am in the midst of a beautiful rolling country, backed by a beautiful mountain; the scenery is magnificent; the air is perfectly pure and sweet; the Raritan River drains the valley and affords opportunity for canoeing and boating, and everything that goes to make country life desirable and attractive is to be found here—and it is all less than sixty minutes from Broadway.



*Photos by F. G. Sutton, Bound Brook.*

*View of Garden and Lawn at "The Evergreens," the Home of George La Monte, Esq.*



Photo by F. G. Sutton, Bound Brook.  
Lawn at "Littlegrave," the Home of George M. LaMonte, Esq.



A GROUP OF THE FARM BUILDINGS

## PIEDMONT FARM

PIEDMONT FARM is one of the attractive places near Bound Brook. It is situated just north of the town at the foot of the Mountain. Originally purchased by Mr. George M. La Monte as a stock farm, the town is rapidly encroaching upon it and in the not distant future its fertile fields must be turned into the lawns of beautiful homes. At the present time Bound Brook's chief supply of pure milk is produced by the Piedmont Herd of registered Guernseys. The dairy equipment is thoroughly modern and is second to none in the State.



A VIEW OF THE FARMHOUSE

## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

**B**OUND BROOK'S financial institutions are not many, but they have been pre-eminently successful. The oldest is the First National Bank of Bound Brook, which was started twenty-one years ago. Its first president, Mr. George LaMonte, is still its president, which indicates the continuity of management from its formation until the present time. This bank started with a capital of \$50,000, fully paid in, and has during its existence accumulated more than \$65,000 in surplus and undivided profits, and has paid to its stockholders in the same length of time more than \$60,000 in earned dividends. It occupies a handsome and commodious home of its own on Hamilton Street.

The Bound Brook National Bank on Main Street, while not as old an institution as the First National, is fast pushing to the front through progressive yet consistent banking methods. Its officers are well known and highly esteemed local men who are identified with every movement looking toward the advancement of Bound Brook and safeguarding the integrity of their institution. Its officers are: President, W. H. Bache; Vice-Presidents, E. H. Radel and M. F. Wirtz; while Ex-Mayor Richard H. Brokaw fills the position of Cashier with grace, tact and faithfulness. The home of this institution, on Main Street, is a handsome and imposing structure.

The third financial institution which should be spoken of in this connection is the Bound Brook Building Loan Association, which was incorporated in 1887. During the twenty-two years of its existence this Building Loan has collected from its members about \$800,000, and so careful have the Directors been in making their loans that during all that length of time it has not been found necessary to foreclose a single mortgage, and only one piece of property has been taken over. Such an institution as this appeals, of course, to a large number of people, which is evidenced by the fact that there are now 4,000 shares in existence belonging to 556 members, and 657 pass books are out, and about \$600,000 of the money which has been paid in has been reinvested in homes.

W. S. FRANKLIN, President

F. STUSSY, JR., Secretary

# CREIGHTON MANOR

## Bound Brook New Jersey

Choice sites for  
Cottages and Bungalows

Lots \$100. to \$300.  
Cash, or easy payments

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By ELBRIDGE VANSYCKEL, JR.

BOUND BROOK, in its unique situation between the Watchung Mountains and the Raritan River, with its topographical and geographical advantages, its romantic background of Revolutionary history and tradition, is pre-eminently a town of homes. And the same is true of its enviroring cousins, East and South Bound Brook.

Churches of various persuasions, the best schools—grammar and high—a public library, public halls, lodges and clubs contribute to the religious, educational, and social demands of the community. But these are not all. An efficient fire department, a marshal and constabulary force, gas and electric lights, and excellent sewer and drainage systems afford protection to its citizens against fires, disorder, and disease.

The health of a town was once said to be “so good that old persons had to go away to die.” This may be putting it rather strongly for any place, but Bound Brook would probably come as near to this ideal as any other that could be mentioned; for many elderly persons are seen upon our streets.

Stepping back from the railroad station a block or two toward the north the visitor is at once pleased with the prospect: the mountains, less than a mile distant, with their bluish tint, the Washington camp ground, commanding a view for many miles, extensive tracts devoted to golf, ball, and other field sports, and particularly the river, here some 400 feet in width, and of corresponding depth. Upon it launches, pleasure boats, and other craft ply in summer, while in winter skating and ice-boating attract hundreds of lovers of those sports.

Delightful drives in all directions over macadam roads with ever-changing views of mountains and streams greet the pleasure seeker. From mountain top may be seen the highlands of the Navesink. Chimney Rock, a place of resort during the summer,

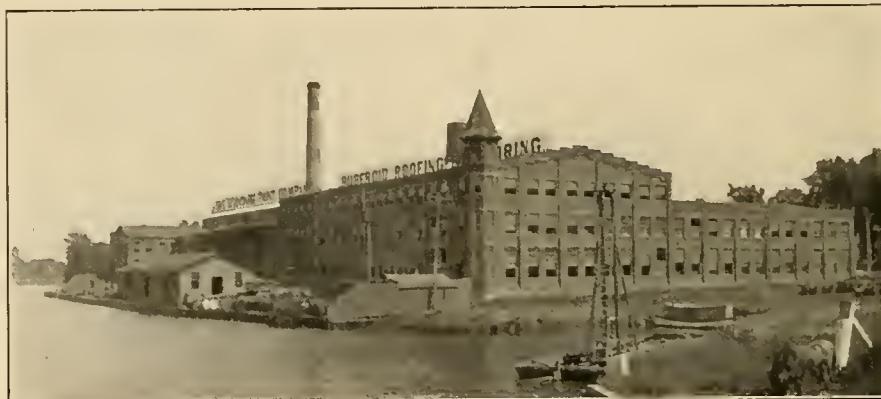
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is only about a mile to the northwest and conspicuous in the variety of scenery afforded. The Middlebrook, a mountain stream, flows far below the rock through leafy dell.

With woods o'erhung and shagged with mossy rocks,  
Whence, on each hand, the gushing waters play.  
And down a rough cascade white dashing fall.

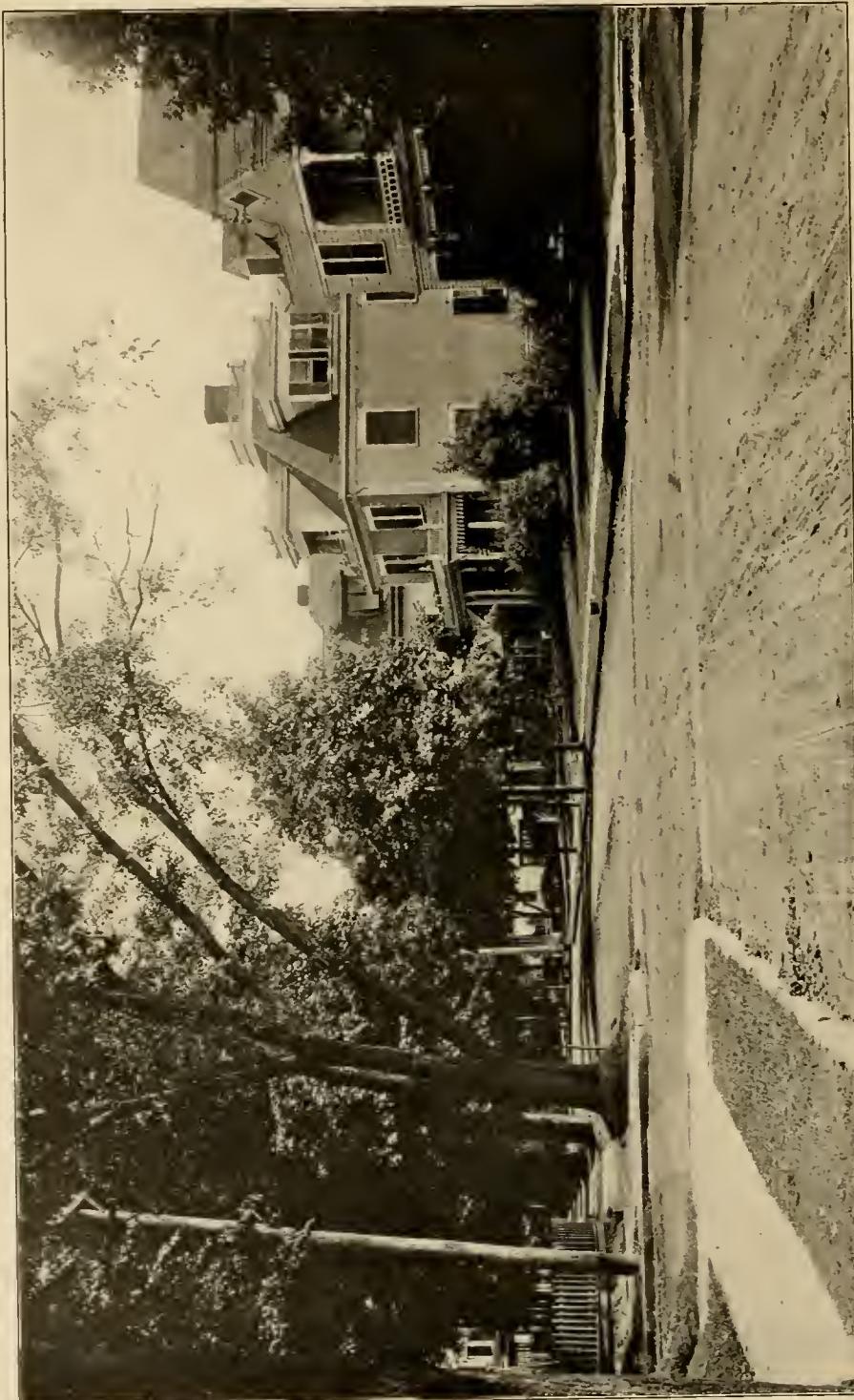
So the poet has sung and Bound Brookers think he did not overstate.

Had it not been for railways, however, Bound Brook would have remained in pristine simplicity, but under their influence it has become one of the most modern and advancing towns. Noted as it is for better railroad facilities than probably any other town of equal population in the country, it owes to railroads more than it is probably aware of. To say nothing to the disparagement of other roads, it is manifestly to the New Jersey Central, as pioneer in point of time, the most of our progress is due.

In view of the unexcelled service, including safety, speed, and comfort, which this road has for years afforded and still offers, people of character and influence, with business or professional interests in the cities have been induced to become permanent residents, to their own and the town's mutual advantage. A railroad like the New Jersey Central plays quite as important a part as any other factor in the development of a village.

What's life in a city? There's no room to spare,  
Men are crowded in corners and scant of air;  
Too near to be neighbors, too fretful for friends,  
Each man jostles each, as he seeks his own ends.  
  
There are folk underneath you, and folk overhead,  
And the noise of the street comes to vex you in bed:  
The jangle of car bells, the cab-whistle shrill,  
All the hum and the whirr and the dust of the mill  
That is grinding all day and grows louder at night,  
Conspire against comfort and banish delight.  
  
Ah, God, for the country—the singing of birds,  
The laughter of children, the lowing of herds,  
Green grass and blue heavens, bright water, clean air,  
And room enough, room enough, room to spare!

—*The Outlook.*



*High Street*

*Photo by F. G. Sutton, Bound Brook.*



*Photo by P. G. Sutton, Bound Brook,*  
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**Bound Brook, N. J.**

## BATTLE OF BOUND BROOK

By the Rev. T. E. DAVIS

THE year of independence, 1776, was closing with dark prospects for the young American Republic. The British Army was marching on to Philadelphia with the intention of capturing and holding the capital of the nation. . . . Thus gloomy and discouraging was the condition when New Jersey became the battle field of the Revolution. But there soon came a turn in the tide of affairs. New recruits in large numbers joined the American Army. The battles of Trenton, December 26; Princeton, January 3; and Weston, January 20, in each of which the Americans were victorious, gave new hope and vigor to the patriots.

Cornwallis, learning that Washington had secured all the boats on the Delaware River, so as to prevent the crossing of the British Army in its march to Philadelphia, decided to encamp for the winter at New Brunswick. Washington took the main part of his army, after the battle of Princeton, to their winter quarters in Morristown. Somerset County suffered severely during this winter from the depredations of the British foraging parties. All along the Raritan River, with its tributaries, the Millstone and South Branch, were prosperous farmers whose well-filled barns and cellars tempted the British soldiers. To shield the people along the Raritan Valley from these marauders, Washington ordered Gen. Benjamin Lincoln with a force of 500 American soldiers to guard the Raritan River. Lincoln was stationed at Bound Brook, his headquarters being in the house of Peter Williamson. A short distance south of this house Lincoln built a block house, in which cannon were placed in a position to defend any approach of the enemy by the road leading from New Brunswick or the bridge across the Raritan River. There were earthworks surrounding this block house. . . .

It was about March 1, 1777, that Lincoln with his small army was stationed at Bound Brook. Gen. Lincoln had a line

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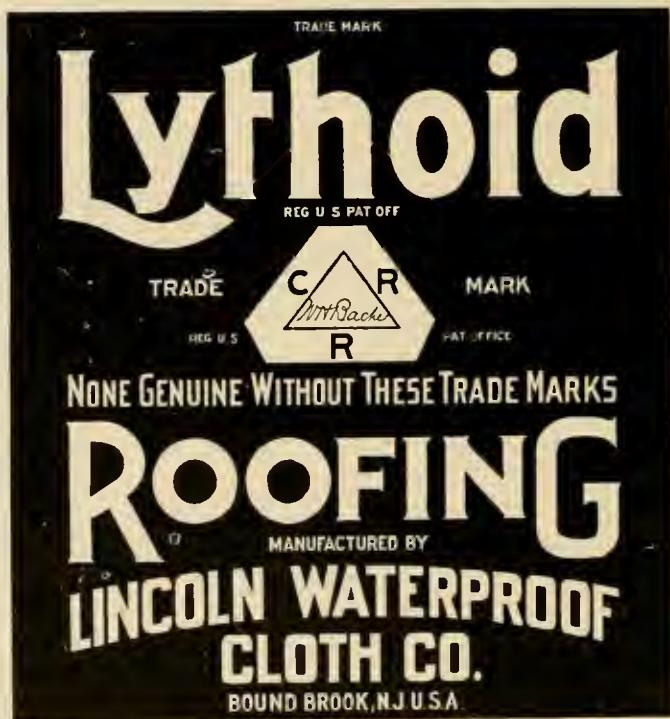
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of patrol, extending along the north bank of the Raritan River, from Van Veghten's bridge down to the bend in the river, from which a view of the Raritan Landing bridge could be obtained. The whole line of patrol was five or six miles, and guarded the three bridges across the river, by which the British would be likely to cross, in marching to an attack on Washington's army. The British Army at New Brunswick consisted of 17,000 men, English and Hessians. These troops were under the command of Lords Howe and Cornwallis. Fortifications were thrown up on the high bank above the river, west of the city, near the present location of the Theological Seminary. An important outpost on an eminence at Raritan Landing was also erected, from which the upper valley of the Raritan could be seen for a long distance.

The British commander, knowing the importance of Bound Brook as a military station, and the small American force defending it, planned for its attack and capture. On Saturday night, April 12th, 1777, between 8 and 9 o'clock, a British force of about 4,000 soldiers started from New Brunswick for Bound Brook. Gen. Lord Cornwallis was in command, with Generals Grant and Matthews and Col. Donop. The troops consisted of one battalion of grenadiers, one battalion of light infantry, a detachment of the guards, the light horse, two battalions of Hessians and the Yagers. The expedition was planned and carried out with so much secrecy, that the rest of the army and the people of the city did not know of it until Sunday morning. Cornwallis divided his army into three detachments. One was to cross the bridge at Raritan Landing, and march to Bound Brook on the north side of the river. The other two detachments were to remain on the south side, and march to the attack on the enemy by way of Van Veghten's bridge, and South Bound Brook. In marching they were to carefully avoid all roads, and move as quietly as possible, so as to be unobserved and thus prevent a warning being given to the American guards. The plan of Cornwallis evidently was to surround the Americans with two detachments of his army, thus preventing their escape to the mountains, and with the third detachment on the south side of the river, to capture or destroy

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those who might attempt to cross. The expedition was entirely successful, as far as the plan of march was concerned. Each detachment reached its destination without detection, and the soldiers rested on their arms until morning. According to orders, the British waited until the American sentries' cry, "All's well," was heard and the morning gun had been fired, and then the two detachments simultaneously rushed upon them. The guards were quickly overpowered. Gen. Lincoln and his soldiers were startled by the fierce cry of his sentries, "To arms!" Hastily arising, without time for dressing, they made a rapid retreat, passing through the fast enclosing lines of the two detachments of the enemy's army, firing a few shots aimlessly as they ran. Had the sentries' alarm come only a few minutes later, or had Cornwallis's plan for surrounding the Americans been more speedily effected, the entire body of the Americans would surely have been captured by this superior force. It was in fact a very narrow escape from total destruction or capture. After reaching the higher ground, the Americans made a stand and began a brisk firing, but the British line reforming and returning the fire, they were compelled to fall back to the mountains in the rear of Bound Brook for safety.

ONE of the most dashing and brilliant exploits in the history of Bound Brook during the Revolution was the raid of the Queen's Rangers, led by Lieut. Col. John Graves Simcoe, on the twenty-sixth of October, 1779. The start was made from Staten Island October 25, at eight o'clock, marching to Billop's Point, where they crossed to Perth Amboy by boat. It was daybreak on the morning of the 26th before this band of cavalry left Perth Amboy. Simcoe had a two-fold object in view—the capture of Governor Livingston, who he thought was at Bound Brook, and the destruction of fifty large flat boats at Van Veghten's bridge, which had been built on the Delaware River and carried overland to the Raritan, that Washington might use them in his attack on the City of New York, which he was now planning. Bound Brook was reached after a rapid march, where the Rangers halted for rest and plunder.



*Photos by F. G. Sutton, Bound Brook.*

(1) *R. H. Brokaw.* (2) *J. J. Bach.* (3) *F. Bent.* (4) *W. W. Smalley.*



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## HISTORICAL BOUND BROOK

By the REV. T. E. DAVIS.

**B**OUND BROOK again occupied an important place in the War of the Revolution when Washington, with the main body of American forces, encamped on the elevation of ground overlooking the village of Bound Brook, and only a mile distant. Here an excellent view of the valley of the Raritan could be obtained, and from the true "Washington Rock" on the summit of the hill, all the movements of the enemy at New Brunswick could be seen.

The American Army came from Morristown May 28, 1777, and pitched their tents on the Middlebrook. The entire army numbered 8,398, including cavalry, artillery and infantry. Of these, 2,660 were sick or disabled, so the real strength of the army was only 5,738 men.

The first encampment was on the west branch of the Middlebrook, in what is called Washington Valley, between the first and second range of mountains. Three forts guarded this valley from any rear attack by the enemy. One of these forts, still carefully preserved, may be seen on the farm and near the home of Mr. Kennedy Bolmer.

Washington remained with his army in this valley only seventeen days, moving on June 14 to the south side of the mountain, where he took up a very strong position on the elevated ground in full view of the British. It was his intention to make a strong line of fortifications here, but on June 30 Lord Howe with the British Army retreated from New Jersey to Staten Island, and two days after, on July 2, Washington moved his army to Pompton Plains.

Bound Brook was again the scene of military excitement, though of a far less dangerous character, when in May, 1779, it was visited by General Maxwell's brigade of New Jersey soldiers. While encamped in the rear of Bound Brook, Washington completed his plans for a campaign against the Indians in Pennsylvania.



Photos by F. G. Sutton, Bound Brook.  
(1) R. C. Parochial School. (2) Pierce School. (3) Public Library.



*Photos by F. G. Sutton, Bound Brook.*

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# A CONSERVATIVE GROWTH AND ITS PRACTICAL RESULTS

By CARROLL C. RAWLINGS.

**B**OUND BROOK lies upon the foothills running up from the Raritan River a distance of some two miles to the bottom of Watchung Mountain range, which rises with a picturesque sky line to a considerable elevation and separates the Raritan from Washington Valley. At the most commanding point on this range and immediately back of Bound Brook is the historical spot "Washington's Camp Ground," the ownership of which is vested in a local patriotic society. Whatever else may be said about the town it has the proud distinction of being the only "Bound Brook" on the face of the earth.

As to the place itself, it is no "mushroom" town, for it was "Bound Brook" in the days of the Revolutionary War. It has within the past quarter of a century become modernized and has taken to itself some of the airs and graces befitting a metropolitan suburb—but there continues enough pleasant suggestion of the olden days of greater deliberation and nice dignity to make one feel that the old is not lost altogether in the new, so that its natural advantages of healthfulness, climate, landscape, as well as the attractiveness of its improvements have each in turn served as a magnet to draw an ever increasing number of New York and Brooklyn people to the place in search of homes, so that to-day there is a population of between four and five thousand, including hundreds of Jersey Central commuters.

One of the most suggestive and significant things about Bound Brook's make-up is that so many of its residents are people who after having spent a few weeks or a summer boarding in the town or at some one of the numerous attractive farm houses or boarding houses in the vicinity have fallen in love with the neighborhood and come back the next year to settle down to live. In other words, the place seems to possess a power to advertise itself.

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Bound Brook, N. J.

While the town, therefore, has never been boomed in the stereotyped way, its growth has been steady and continuous, and has therefore been substantial, also with respect to the character of its improvements, public buildings, paved streets, water supply, sewage disposal, electric lighting, fire department, police, etc., it has been no less substantial and fortunate in the quality of its inhabitants.

While there are not a few families of wealth and many more who own their own homes and are most admirably situated—professional and business men, local as well as commuters, there are many prosperous skilled mechanics who find Bound Brook “a place fit to live in,” and it would be hard to find any community where there exists a finer spirit of general good will and cordial fraternal relations among the people at large. This is notably so in respect to the manner in which the various churches harmonize and work together, and the willingness to co-operate and contribute mutual support to all the institutions and interests of the community permeates the entire social fabric to a marked degree. This is one of the reasons why people like to come to Bound Brook and settle down and live in such an agreeable atmosphere rather than experiment elsewhere.

As to the practical points of attraction it may first be said that next to the city of Elizabeth no other town in New Jersey possesses such admirable railroad facilities as Bound Brook. Hourly fast trains to New York and Philadelphia, cheap commutation and trip-ticket rates, and some of the trains making the run between Bound Brook and New York, a distance of thirty-one miles, in fifty-five minutes. When to these facts is added the statement that no railroad out of New York compares with the Jersey Central in the attractiveness and solid comfort both of roadbed and cars—it may be seen that convenience, ease and speed are fully realized.

Then there is the charming Raritan River which winds its serpentine course right through the town and upon whose placid waters the launches, row boats and canoes of the Bound Brook Boat Club give life and gaiety to the scene from May to October.

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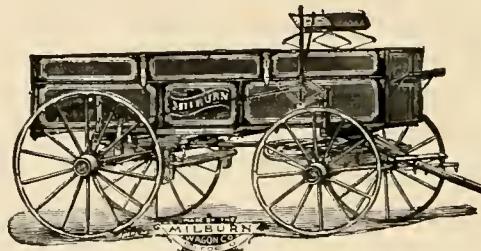
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while the river and canal in the winter time offer ideal fields for skating.

There are numerous and attractive homes in the town and others equally worth seeing in the outlying suburbs, and they are mentioned here not to be invidious, but as a basis for the question, "If the owners of these homes find Bound Brook attractive enough to draw them to it why should not the reader of this sketch feel inclined to investigate?"

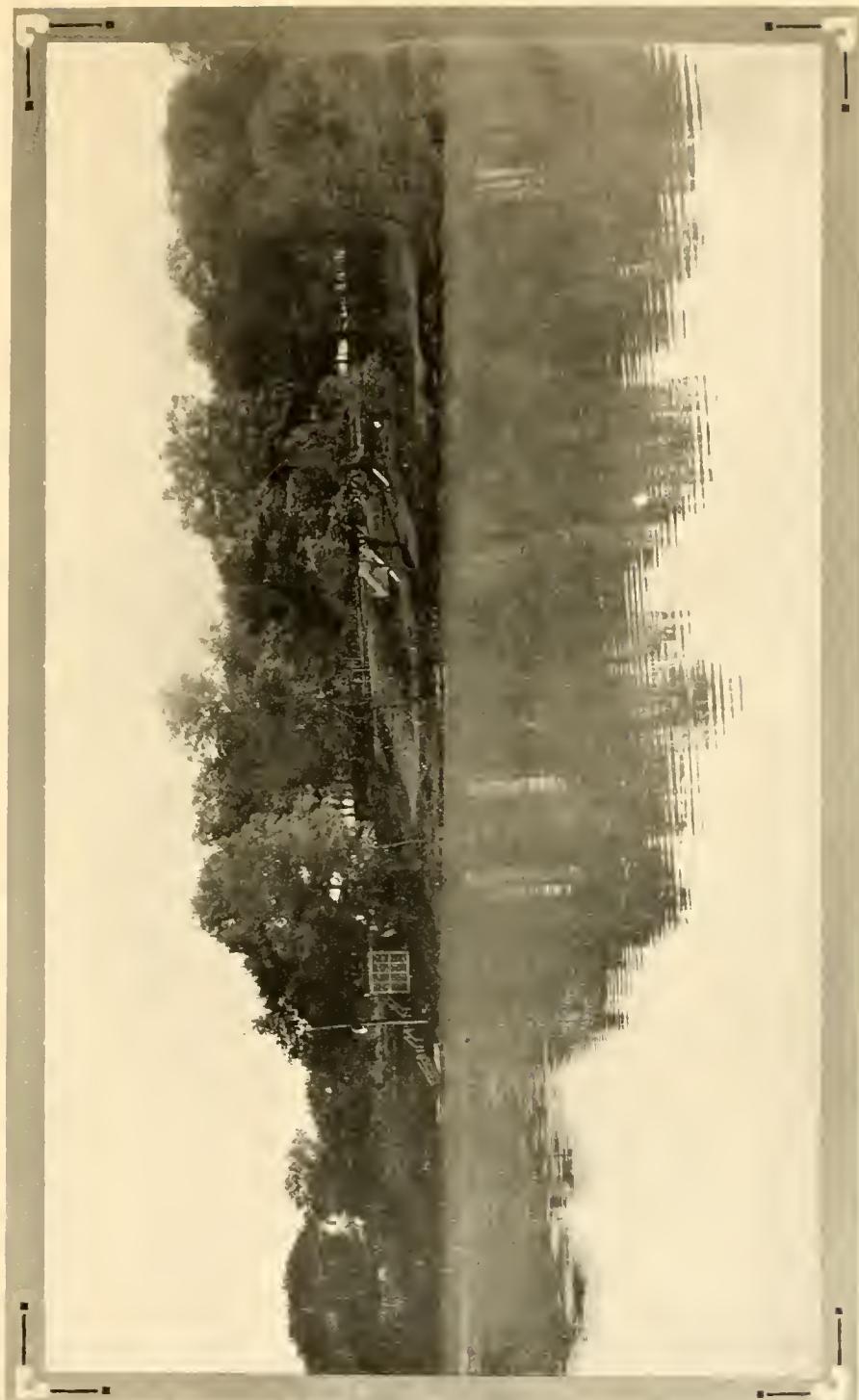
Notable among these places may be mentioned "The Evergreens," the home of the Hon. George La Monte; "Littlegrange," the residence of George M. La Monte, both on West High Street; "Mountain View," the extensive and beautiful mansion erected on West Union Avenue by the late Commodore William B. Robeson; the equally beautiful and palatial town residence of Robert S. Kelso, as well as the commodious and imposing house of Samuel H. Miller, Cashier of the Chase National Bank of New York. In the other direction, running down the river from Bound Brook, the improvements made in the last two or three years have been remarkable.

On the west side of the river two superb residences have been completed, one that of C. E. Sherin, the other that finished and occupied last summer by George Sweeney, proprietor of the Hotel Victoria and the Marlborough Hotel, New York City, while on the east side of the Raritan, on the line of the trolley leading to New Brunswick, the most conspicuous is the famous property known as "River Rest," owned and occupied the year around by Edward P. Bryan. Adjacent to it is "River Bend," the pretty home of J. Augustus Smith, merchant and Vice-President of the First National Bank, Plainfield. Immediately south of that is the Bound Brook Boat Club house, while next is "River-Lawn," the residence of C. C. Rawlings. Further on is the extensive farm "Longacres," of J. H. Hendricks; then comes "Park View," the newly completed and elaborate house and grounds of Edward H. Radel, former President of the New Jersey Trolley System, and now Vice-President of the Bound Brook National Bank, adjacent to which is the handsome residence of Benjamin B. Field, and opposite that, with ample river frontage, is Riverside Park.



Photo by J. B. Parrot, Bound Brook.

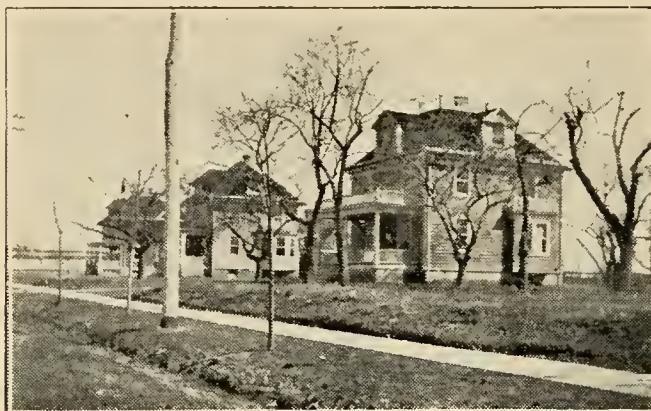
Raritan River Dam



*Photo by J. B. Parlor, Bound Brook.*

*Bound Brook Boat Club's Home*

# NEW BOUND BROOK

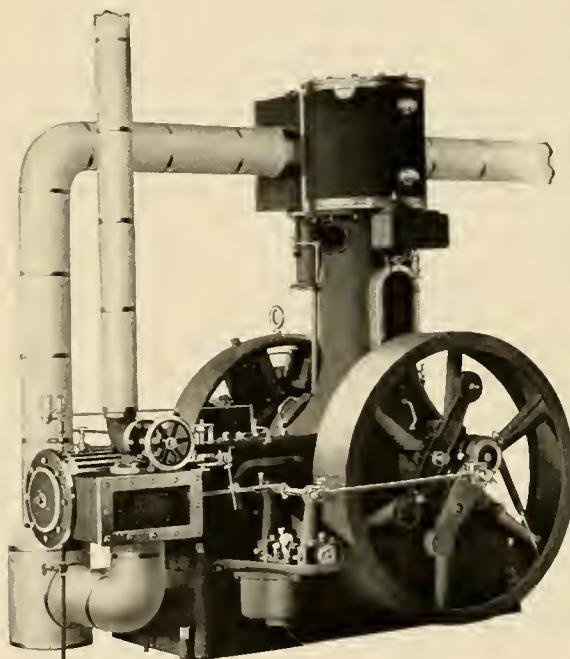


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## OLD AND NEW IN ONE CORNER OF SOMERSET COUNTY

By MRS. ELIZABETH D. H. STRYKER

**I**N the northern part of New Jersey, two little streams rise from the same source or within a very short distance of each other, and wandering in different directions, finally unite to form the Raritan River. Seven or eight miles from this union, the river, winding through a beautiful country, runs toward the Watchung range, and although over a mile away, viewed from a little distance, it appears to run almost at the base of the mountain.

Such is the view which one gets in approaching Bound Brook, via a Central Railroad train, or coming up from New Brunswick by the trolley. Some years back, Bound Brook (so named from the boundary brook) was one of the conservative places where *few* commuters dwelt, but the majority of the inhabitants were merchants, farmers or tradespeople. Now there are factories, and two banks, while many suburbanites daily take the comfortable and speedy trains to New York for business—returning in one hour or less to a healthful, beautiful home.

Bound Brook is particularly adapted to families with young children. The schools are fine, especially in the principal borough of Bound Brook. The town has expanded across the Raritan so a borough of South Bound Brook has been formed. This is not at all new, however, for one of the houses was the headquarters of Baron Steuben, and one is shown Lafayette's chair and Washington's cup (or vice versa, as the writer forgets which used which article) when visiting this old revolutionary homestead. Then across Green Brook, and in another county, is another good sized suburb of Bound Brook, called East Bound Brook, not yet a borough, but attractive and convenient, with all public utilities.

After a residence of twelve years in Bound Brook, it is with great satisfaction I recall the home—simple, but roomy, with beautiful lawn, plots for flowers, and a spacious garden, where most delicious vegetables and fruits were raised, walnut trees just

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coming into bearing and a little chicken run, where a dozen Plymouth Rocks kept the family of four more than supplied with eggs, save in the coldest weather, when possibly economy had to be exercised in the number used. Such eggs are not to be had excepting for fabulous sums, for the flavor of an egg laid by a chicken, kept in a clean, wholesome place, with nice, clean food is very different from the usual egg of commerce—no matter how fresh. It spoils one for ordinary markets to have such luxuries. One never gets peas and asparagus to taste like the home-grown, and asparagus growing at five o'clock in the afternoon and on the table at six-thirty is as different from market asparagus as an orange ripened on the tree and eaten at once, or a peach mellowed in the sunshine of the orchard.

Bound Brook is essentially a town of moderate priced homes, the demand for houses being much greater than the supply. Yet it is in such close proximity to Somerville and Plainfield by railroad, trolley or macadam highways, and New Brunswick by an electric line and two fine roads, on either side of the river, that what the markets and merchants of the town cannot supply, can easily be procured in one of these environs.

Reference has been made to historical places in Bound Brook, and apropos of this, one of the oldest Presbyterian church organizations in America is the Bound Brook Presbyterian Church. It was established under a charter and is still run under the provisions of that instrument. The old church building was burned by *water*, in 1896, for water set fire to lime in the lumber yard and the sparks flew into the belfry of the church and ignited it, entirely destroying the structure. The old church was situated some distance from the main street and had two rows of trees along the walk, making a cool, restful approach to the front door. The new edifice is in the most central part of the town and the old site is now occupied by places of business, the trolley passing through both streets.

This one fact would illustrate possibly more forcibly than anything the advance the borough has made from the conservative days of the past.

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## FROM AN INDUSTRIAL STANDPOINT

By W. B. R. MASON

**A**LTHOUGH Bound Brook is one of the oldest of New Jersey towns, its commercial importance may be said to date back only to 1876, in which year the Delaware & Bound Brook Railroad was completed, giving a competing route between New York and Philadelphia, and the Lehigh Valley's extension was built from Easton to Amboy, with a New York connection over the Pennsylvania road.

Henry L. Einstein was one of the first to see the importance of this point, and he located the Bound Brook Woolen Mills here. The Graphite Lubricating Company, the Standard Paint Company, the American Engine Company, Pathé Frères, and the Lincoln Waterproof Cloth Co., all large industries, giving employment to many hundred skilled mechanics, are now our principal industries, whose products are known around the world. With such excellent shipping facilities by rail over the Central of New Jersey, the Philadelphia & Reading, Lehigh Valley, and Baltimore & Ohio roads, as well as the Delaware and Raritan Canal, Bound Brook is an industrial center that is certain to increase in importance as its advantages become better known.

The employees of these shops are an industrious class of men, and a great many of them are thrifty, owning the homes they occupy, through the opportunity afforded by the Bound Brook Building Loan Association, which has helped thousands.

Indeed, the good work done by this association is by no means confined to our machinists, mechanics and laboring men. The New York commuter, who is quite a factor in the social life of the town, has a large interest in the Building Loan Association, and many of the more pretentious of our detached homes, surrounded with pretty grounds, have been secured by this means.

There is room here for many more commuters as well as for additional industries. Our train facilities are of the best, the

commutation rate is low, and now that the Jersey City tube is a practical reality Bound Brook residents can go to New York (via the Lehigh Valley road) without the delay of ferry travel.

Bound Brook is particularly favored with an abundance of good factory sites. With the New Jersey Central, Lehigh Valley, Reading and Baltimore & Ohio roads, nearly four miles of frontage are available, and the owners are prepared to deal very liberally with reliable concerns. The Delaware and Raritan Canal affords a water connection with both Philadelphia and New York, and several steamers make regular trips daily. The proposal on foot to convert this water route into a ship canal will make it a powerful element in the future development of the country on its borders. In the matter of labor, Bound Brook itself can supply a goodly number of people, while within half an hour's trolley ride lie Somerville and Raritan to the west, New Brunswick to the south, and Dunellen and Plainfield to the east, with a combined population of 100,000 people.

Local capitalists are prepared to build all the houses for working people to meet any demand, which will be rented or sold on very easy terms.

Our Board of Trade is organized not only to increase our growth and population, but to enlarge the public spirit of our citizens and to induce them to take their share in securing the progress which adds not only to our civic pride, but also increases the wealth and prosperity of our citizens, whose business and property are improved by the growth in population brought about by the efforts of this organization.

It will be a far day before the end of our progress is in sight, and with the impetus given by our public spirit we may look for great accomplishments. Our splendid situation for industries of every class, our proximity to raw materials and cheap fuel, our location on the three great trunk lines of the Lehigh Valley, the Reading and the Baltimore & Ohio systems, our enlarged banking capital, our unexcelled healthful location and our most beautiful town, make Bound Brook a really delightful home, where every comfort can be had.

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